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1. A method for managing messages, comprising the steps of:
displaying a message to a user;
accepting from said user an annotation to said message;
associating said annotation with said message; and
thereafter selectively displaying said annotation with said
message.

2. The method of claim 1, said selectively displaying step
further comprising the steps of:
displaying with said message indicia representing the
existence of said annotation;
selectively receiving from said user a request to display
said annotation; and
displaying said annotation with said message.

3. The method of claim 1 or claim 2, said accepting step
further comprising the steps of:
selectively presenting to said user an edit panel; and
receiving from said user said annotation input to said edit
panel.

4. The method of any one of claims 1 to 3, further comprising
the steps of:

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selecting a message from a first file of messages for display to said user; and
associating in a second file said annotation to a corresponding message in said first file.

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5. The method of claim 4, further comprising the steps of:
providing message identifying indicia for each message in said first file;
generating annotation identifying indicia as a function of said message identifying indicia.

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6. The method of claim 4 or claim 5, further comprising the steps of:

upon presenting a message from said first file, determining the presence of a corresponding annotation in said second file;

responsive to the presence of said corresponding annotation, displaying with said message indicia representing the existence of said annotation;

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selectively receiving from said user a request to display said annotation; and

responsive to receiving the request from said user, displaying said annotation with said message.

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7. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

during processing of application code entered by a user,
identifying an error in said code;

selecting and presenting to said user an error message
corresponding to said error;

identifying and presenting to said user an annotation
corresponding to said error message; and

enabling and selectively receiving an annotation and a
modified annotation from said user for association with said
error message.

8. The method of claim 7, further comprising the steps of:
preserving a history of error messages presented to said
user;
enabling user selection of an error message from said
history of error messages; and
selectively receiving from said user an annotation to the
error message selected from said history.

9. The method of any one of claims 1 to 8, further comprising
the step of presenting said annotation to other users receiving
said message.

10. The method of any one of claims 4 to 6, further comprising
the step of enabling access by other users to said second file.

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11. A method for managing error messages in a graphic user interface, comprising the steps of:

selecting and displaying an error message to a user;

accepting from said user an annotation to said message;

associating said annotation with said message;

thereafter selectively displaying said annotation with said message; and

presenting an edit panel in said graphic user interface for user entry of new or modified annotations.

12. A system for managing messages at a user interface, comprising:

means for displaying a message to a user;

means for accepting from said user an annotation to said message;

means for associating said annotation with said message; and

means for selectively displaying said annotation with said message.

13. A system for presenting messages in a user display, comprising:

a first file for storing a plurality of messages, each said message identified by a message key;

a second file for storing a plurality of annotations, each said annotation associated with a corresponding said message;

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a first event driven control component for selecting from said first file a display message from said first file for presentation in said user display;

5 a second event driven control component for determining the presence in said second file of an annotation associated with said display message; and

a third event driven control component for displaying said associated annotation in said user display.

10 14. The system of claim 13, further comprising a fourth control component responsive to entry in said user display of a message annotation to a displayed message, for adding said message annotation to said second file associated with said displayed message.

15 15. The system of claim 14, further comprising an editor for receiving via an annotation panel in said user display said message annotation.

20 16. A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a machine to perform the method steps for managing messages of any one of claims 1 to 11.

Sub A4 17. A computer program product or computer program element for managing a message display according to the steps of any one of claims 1 to 11.

5 Sub B1 18. An article of manufacture comprising:

a computer useable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein for managing messages, the computer readable program means in said article of manufacture comprising:

10 computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect displaying a message to a user;

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect accepting from said user an annotation to said message;

15 computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect associating said annotation with said message; and

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect thereafter selectively displaying said annotation with said message.

20 19. The article of manufacture of claim 18, said computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect selectively displaying further comprising:

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computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect displaying with said message indicia representing the existence of said annotation;

5 computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect selectively receiving from said user a request to display said annotation; and

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect displaying said annotation with said message.

10 20. The article of manufacture of claim 18 or claim 19, said computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect accepting further comprising:

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15 computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect selectively presenting to said user an edit panel; and

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect receiving from said user said annotation input to said edit panel.

20 21. The article of manufacture of any one of claims 18 to 20, further comprising:

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect selecting a message from a first file of messages for display to said user; and

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect associating in a second file said annotation to a corresponding message in said first file.

22. The article of manufacture of claim 21, further comprising:

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect providing message identifying indicia for each message in said first file;

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect generating annotation identifying indicia as a function of said message identifying indicia.

23. The article of manufacture of claim 21 or claim 22, further comprising:

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect, upon presenting a message from said first file, determining the presence of a corresponding annotation in said second file;

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect, responsive to the presence of said corresponding annotation, displaying with said message indicia representing the existence of said annotation;

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect selectively receiving from said user a request to display said annotation; and

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computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect responsive to receiving the request from said user, displaying said annotation with said message.

5 24. The article of manufacture of claim 18, further comprising:

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect, during processing of application code entered by a user, identifying an error in said code;

10 computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect, selecting and presenting to said user an error message corresponding to said error;

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect identifying and presenting to said user an annotation corresponding to said error message; and

15 computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect enabling and selectively receiving an annotation and a modified annotation from said user for association with said error message.

20 25. The article of manufacture of claim 24, further comprising:

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect preserving a history of error messages presented to said user;

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computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect enabling user selection of an error message from said history of error messages; and

5 computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect selectively receiving from said user an annotation to the error message selected from said history.

10 26. The article of manufacture of any one of claims 18 to 25, further comprising computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect presenting said annotation to other users receiving said message.

15 27. The article of manufacture of any one of claims 21 to 23, further comprising computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect enabling access by other users to said second file.

20 28. An article of manufacture comprising:

a computer useable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein for managing error messages in a graphic user interface, the computer readable program means in said article of manufacture comprising:

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect selecting and displaying an error message to a user;

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect accepting from said user an annotation to said message;

5 computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect associating said annotation with said message;

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect thereafter selectively displaying said annotation with said message; and

10 computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect presenting an edit panel in said graphic user interface for user entry of new or modified annotations.

15 29. A computer program product for presenting messages in a user display, comprising:

a first file for storing a plurality of messages, each said message identified by a message key;

20 a second file for storing a plurality of annotations, each said annotation associated with a corresponding said message;

a first event driven control component for selecting from said first file a display message from said first file for presentation in said user display;

a second event driven control component for determining the presence in said second file of an annotation associated with said display message; and

a third event driven control component for displaying said associated annotation in said user display.

30. The computer program product of claim 29, further comprising a fourth control component responsive to entry in said user display of a message annotation to a displayed message, for adding said message annotation to said second file associated with said displayed message.